#23 amendy

PATENT

SEP 2 3 2002 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the opplication of:

CASE NO.: BB1137 US CPA

APPLICATION NO.: 09/326,285

GROUP ART UNIT: 1634

FILED: JUNE 7, 1999

EXAMINER: JULIET C. EINSMANN

FOR: GENES FOR DESATURASES TO ALTER

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is submitted to facilitate prosecution of the above-identified application.

In the Claims

Kindly cancel claims 1-150 and 168-170.

Remarks

This is a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR §1.53(d). Specifically, this is a continued prosecution application of application number 09/326,285 filed June 7, 1999.

The claims which have been cancelled are those which were elected for further prosecution in a divisional application.

A petition for a three (3) month extension of time accompanies the filing of this continued prosecution application.

Please charge any fees or credit any overpayment of fees which are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, Information Disclosure Statement and Petition for Extension of Time to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne M. Christenbury LYNNE M. CHRISTENBURY ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS REGISTRATION NO. 30,971

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Dated: Sept. 23, 2002